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### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Board of Directors Clinton County Telephone Company

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Clinton County Telephone Company and its subsidiaries, which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in stockholder's equity, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate for the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS (continued)

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Clinton County Telephone Company and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Spokane, Washington

MOSS Adams UP

March 13, 2014

### CLINTON COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

#### ASSETS

December 31, 2013 2012

### **CURRENT ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents
Subscriber accounts receivable, less allowance
of in 2013 and \$ 1 in 2012
Settlements and access accounts receivable, less
allowance of in 2013 and \$ 1 in 2012
Materials and supplies
Prepaid expenses

Total current assets

### INVESTMENTS AND OTHER ASSETS

Accounts receivable, affiliated company Investment in affiliates Investment in nonaffiliates Other assets

Total other assets

### PROPERTY, PLANT, AND EQUIPMENT

Telecommunications plant in service Telecommunications plant under construction Nonregulated plant in service

Less accumulated depreciation

Total property, plant, and equipment

Total assets

### CLINTON COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

### LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY

per 31,
2012

**CURRENT LIABILITIES** 

Accounts payable
Advance billings
Other accrued liabilities
Income taxes payable, parent
Deferred revenues
Current maturities - long-term debt

Total current liabilities

LONG-TERM DEBT

**DEFERRED INCOME TAXES** 

### STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY

Common stock shares authorized and outstanding par value per share)
Additional paid-in capital
Retained earnings

Total stockholder's equity

Total liabilities and stockholder's equity

### CLINTON COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

Years Ended December 31, 2013 2012

#### OPERATING REVENUE

Wireline Video Internet

Miscellaneous revenues

Total operating revenues

### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

Plant specific
Plant nonspecific
Depreciation and amortization
Customer operations
Corporate operations
Other operating taxes
Other operating expenses

Total operating expenses

Operating income

### NONOPERATING INCOME (EXPENSE)

Interest and dividend income Interest expense

Total nonoperating expense

Income before taxes

Income tax expense

Net income

# CLINTON COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY

	Common Stock	Additional Paid-In Capital	Retained Earnings	Total Stockholder's Equity
Balance at December 31, 2011				
Netincome	•			
Balance at December 31, 2012				
Net income				
Balance at December 31, 2013				

### CLINTON COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Years Ended December 31, 2013 2012

### CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Net income

Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash

from operations

Depreciation

Amortization

Patronage income

Deferred income taxes

Changes in assets and liabilities

Accounts receivable

Affiliate accounts receivable

Material and supplies

Prepaid expenses

Accounts payable

Advance billings and payments

Other accrued expenses

Deferred revenue

Net cash from operating activities

### CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Purchases of property and equipment

Patronage received

Net cash from investing activities

## CLINTON COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Years Ended December 31, 2013 2012

CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES Principal payments on long-term debt

NET CHANGES IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, beginning of period

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, end of period

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION Cash paid for Interest

### Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies

**Description of entity** – Clinton County Telephone Company (Company) provides local telephone exchange, Internet, television, and other telecommunications services to customers in the state of Michigan. The Company is wholly-owned by Great Lakes Comnet, Inc. (GLC).

**Principles of consolidation** - The financial statements include the accounts of Clinton County Telephone Company (CCTC) and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Westphalia Telephone Company (WTC), Westphalia Broadband, Inc. (WBI). All material intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated in consolidation.

Accounting policies – The financial statements of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America applicable to regulated public utilities. Such accounting principles are consistent, in all material respects, with accounting prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Accounting estimates – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Significant estimates include depreciation expense.

Cash and cash equivalents – For purposes of the statements of cash flows, the Company considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

Concentration of risks - At various times throughout the year, the cash balances deposited in local institutions exceed federally insured limits. A possible loss exists for those amounts in excess of



Accounts receivable – Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect on outstanding balances. The Company reviews the collectability of accounts receivable annually based upon an analysis of outstanding receivables, historical collection information, and existing economic conditions. Receivables from subscribers are due 15 days after issuance of the subscriber bill. Receivables from other exchange carriers are due 30 days after issuance of the bill. Management provides for probable uncollectible amounts through a charge to earnings and a credit to a valuation allowance based on its assessment of the current status of individual accounts. Balances still outstanding after management has used reasonable collection efforts are written off through a charge to the valuation allowance and a credit to accounts receivable. Clinton County management believes it has established adequate reserves for any risk associated with these receivables.

#### Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Materials and supplies - Materials and supplies are valued at the lower of current market value or average cost.

**Investment** in affiliate – The Company's investment in affiliate consists of an investment in Great Lakes Comnet. Great Lakes Comnet was created by a group of independent telephone companies to offer network and toll services. The investment is accounted for using the cost method.

**Investments in nonaffiliates** – Investments in nonaffiliates consist primarily of assigned patronage from other associations and are accounted for using the cost method.

**Property, plant, and equipment** – Property, plant, and equipment are stated at cost. The cost of additions and substantial betterments of property, plant, and equipment is capitalized. The cost of maintenance and repairs is charged to operating expenses.

Property, plant, and equipment are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, generally ranging from 3 to 26 years. In accordance with composite group depreciation methodology, when a portion of the Company's depreciable property, plant, and equipment is retired in the ordinary course of business, the gross book value is charged to accumulated depreciation.

**Long-lived assets** – Long-lived assets are reviewed by management for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount may not be recoverable. If the expected future cash flow from the use of the asset and its eventual disposition is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognized and measured using the asset's fair value.

**Income taxes –** The Company files consolidated income tax returns with its parent company, GLC, in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and state jurisdictions as applicable. Accordingly, income taxes payable to (refundable from) the tax authorities are recognized on the financial statements of the parent company who is the taxpayer for income tax purposes. The members of the consolidated group allocate payments to any member of the group for the income tax reduction resulting from the member's inclusion in the consolidated return, or the member makes payments to the parent company for its allocated share of the consolidated income tax liability. This allocation approximates the amount that would be reported if the Company were separately filing its tax returns and amounts owing to or from the parent are reported on the balance sheets as income taxes payable, parent.

Deferred taxes are provided on a liability method whereby deferred tax liabilities are recognized for deductible temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognized for taxable temporary differences. Temporary differences are the differences between the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and their tax basis. Deferred tax liabilities relate primarily to the use of accelerated depreciation methods for tax purposes. Deferred tax assets relate primarily to net operating loss and capital loss carryforwards. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance when, in the opinion of management, it is more likely than not some portion or all of the deferred tax will not be realized.

### Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

**Income taxes (continued)** – The Company records uncertain tax positions if the likelihood the position will be sustained upon examination is less than 50%. As of December 31, 2013 and 2012, the Company had no accrued amounts related to uncertain tax positions. Interest and penalties, if any, are recorded as interest expense and other expense, respectively. The statute of limitations is generally three years for federal returns and four years for Michigan returns. The Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal or state and local income tax examinations by tax authorities for years before 2010 and 2009, respectively.

**Revenue recognition** - Monthly service fees derived from local wireline, Internet, and television services are billed one month in advance, but recognized in the month that service is provided.

Usage sensitive revenues such as access (revenues earned for originating/terminating long distance calls) and long distance charges billed to subscribers are generally billed as a per-minute charge. Although these revenues are billed in arrears, an estimate of unbilled revenues is accrued in the month service is provided.

Westphalia Telephone's wireline revenues also include settlements based on the Company's participation in the revenue pools administered by the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA). Revenues are determined by formulas that are based upon a representative sample of pooled network facility costs and demand quantities (i.e. minutes of use, access lines, etc.). These formulas are approved by the FCC annually and the pools are subject to a 24-month adjustment period. Management does not anticipate significant adjustments to recorded revenues for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012.

Westphalia Telephone's universal service support revenue is intended to compensate the Company for the high cost of providing rural telecommunications service. Universal service support revenue includes funds received for high cost loop support, interstate common line support, local switching support (prior to July 1, 2012), Connect America Fund (CAF) support, and other miscellaneous programs.

#### Regulation - The Company's services are subject to rate regulation as follows:

- Incumbent local telephone and intrastate access revenues are regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission. The FCC also has assumed preemptive authority to regulate intrastate telecommunications services, including intrastate access rates.
- Incumbent interstate access revenues are regulated by the FCC through its regulation of rates and settlements procedures as administered by NECA.
- Universal service revenues are administered by Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), based on rules established by the FCC.

### Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

**Regulation (continued)** – Other sources of revenues are not rate regulated, and include local wireline and access services that are provided in competition with another incumbent wireline carrier (CLEC), Internet, long distance, equipment sales, billing and collection, and other incidental services.

Other operating expenses and nonregulated plant are directly attributable to the following nonregulated services: Internet, television, and miscellaneous revenues.

All other operating expenses and telecommunications plants are related primarily to wireline revenues. However, some of these costs jointly relate to regulated and nonregulated services.

The FCC reformed Intercarrier Compensation and Universal Service Funding (USF) mechanisms. The majority of the new rules took effect, subject to various transition provisions, on July 1, 2012, as follows:

- · Limitations on the amount of support received per line
- · Limitations on capital expenditures and operating expenses recoverable from the USF
- · Benchmarks for minimum local rates charged to end users by recipients of support
- · The establishment of the Access Recovery Charge billed to end users
- · The elimination of local switching support
- The establishment of the CAF, a new funding mechanism for investment and expenses related to the switching and transport functions
- The structured reduction of carrier access rates charged by the Company to other carriers using its network to complete long distance calls

Taxes imposed by governmental authorities – The Company's customers are subject to taxes assessed by various governmental authorities on many different types of revenue transactions with the Company. These specific taxes are charged to and collected from the Company's customers and subsequently remitted to the appropriate taxing authority. The taxes are accounted for on a net basis and excluded from revenues.

Subsequent events – Subsequent events are events or transactions that occur after the balance sheet date but before the financial statements are available to be issued. The Company recognizes in the financial statements the effects of all subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the date of the balance sheet, including the estimates inherent in the process of preparing the financial statements. The Company's financial statements do not recognize subsequent events that provide evidence about conditions that did not exist at the date of the balance sheet but arose after the balance sheet date and before the financial statements are available to be issued.

The Company has evaluated subsequent events through March 13, 2014, which is the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

#### Note 2 - Investments in Nonaffiliates

Investments in nonaffiliates consist primarily of assigned patronage from other cooperatives and nonmarketable stock of telephone industry corporations. Investments in nonaffiliated organizations are carried at cost, as the investments do not have readily determinable fair values, and consist of the following:

2013 2012

National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative (NRTC) Rural Telephone Finance Cooperative (RTFC) CoBank

RTFC is a financing entity from which the Company has borrowed funds and is owned and controlled by its customers. Each customer borrowing from RTFC shares in the net income of the entity through payment of patronage refunds. The investment also consists of subordinated certificates that represent a capital investment by the Company in RTFC as a condition of borrowing. Approximately 20% to 40% of patronage refunds are received in cash with the balance coming in additional ownership of the financing cooperative. Subordinated capital is redeemable at face value for cash after the related debt is paid off; patronage ownership is subject to general retirement practices. The patronage refunds are reflected in the income statements as dividend income.

#### Note 3 - Other Assets

Other assets consist of the following:

2013 2012

Loan fees Video services contract

The Company entered into a ten-year contract with Allendale Telephone Company (ATC) to utilize the ATC head end to provide video services. Initial costs related to the contract are amortized on a straight-line basis.

### Note 3 - Other Assets (continued)

The costs are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the agreements. Amortization expense expected to be recognized over the next three years is as follows:

Years Ending December 31,

2014

2015

2016

### Note 4 - Property, Plant, and Equipment

Property, plant, and equipment balances, together with accumulated depreciation, consist of the following at December 31:

	Depreciable Life	Plant Account	Accumulated Depreciation	2013 Net Balance	2012 Net Balance
General support assets Central office assets					
Cable and wire facilities Internet and television				441	
Plant under construction					

### Note 5 - Long-Term Debt

Long-term debt is as follows as of December 31:

Maturity					
Interest Rate	Dates	2013	2012		

Rural Telephone Finance Cooperative (RTFC), variable

Less current portion

### Note 5 - Long-Term Debt (continued)

The RTFC debt requires quarterly principal payments ranging from to plus interest through February 28, 2015.

Substantially all assets of the Company are pledged as security for long-term debt. The terms of the mortgage agreements contain restrictions requiring the maintenance of defined ratios for leverage, debt service coverage, and include limitations on additional debt and dividend distributions.

Maturities of long-term debt obligations for the two years following December 31, 2013, are as follows:

Years Ending December 31, 2014 2015

#### Note 6 - Income Taxes

The components of the provision for income tax benefit (expense) are as follows as of December 31:

2013

2012

Current

Federal

State

Deferred

Federal and state

The provision for income taxes differs from the amount computed by applying the current statutory federal income tax rate to earnings before taxes due to the effect of state income taxes (net of federal benefit), nondeductible items, and prior year over or under accruals.

### Note 6 - Income Taxes (continued)

The	components	of	the	net	deferred	tax	liability	recorded	in	the	accompanying	balance	sheets	at
Dece	mber 31, are:													

2013 2012

Deferred tax asset
Allowance for doubtful accounts
Accrued compensation
Net operating loss carryforward
Capital loss carryforwards

Valuation allowance

Net deferred tax assets

Deferred tax liability

Tax depreciation greater than book

Other

The Company has a federal net operating loss carryforward of approximately that begins to expire in The Company also has federal and state capital loss carryforwards of approximately that expire in 2014. Due to a change in control, the use of net operating losses and capital losses are subject to limitation imposed by the Internal Revenue Code, which limits the use to approximately per year.

#### Note 7 - Lease Agreements

The Company leases equipment space. The leases are noncancellable and expire between 2014 and 2021. Lease expense amounted to and for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments on noncancellable operating leases for the next five years are:

Years Ending December 31,

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

#### Note 8 - Related Party Transactions

The Company provides certain operations and maintenance services to GLC for the tandem switch and STP equipment that resides in the Company's building. The Company also provides limited technical services that are billed on an hourly basis. The Company receives per month for the services.

In addition to the contract mentioned above, the Company receives settlements for transporting traffic from the GLC fiber route and terminating that traffic at the GLC tandem. The Company receives per month for billing and collection services and bandwidth between the facilities.

#### Note 9 - Subsequent Events

In January 2014, Westphalia Broadband sold its investment in Great Lakes Comnet, Inc. for



### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION



### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS ON SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Board of Trustees Clinton County Telephone Company

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Clinton County Telephone Company as of and for the year ended December 31, 2013, and have issued our report thereon dated March 13, 2014, which contained an unmodified opinion on those consolidated financial statements and appears on page 1. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements as a whole. The consolidating information is presented for the purposes of additional analysis of the consolidated financial statements, rather than to present financial position, results of operations, and cash flows of the individual companies, and it is not a required part of the consolidated financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the consolidated financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the consolidated financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the consolidated financial statements or to the consolidated financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the consolidating information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the consolidated financial statements as a whole.

Spokane, Washington March 13, 2014

Moss Adams UP

### CLINTON COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 2013					
	Westphalia				
Clinton County	Telephone	Westphalia			
Telephone	Company	Broadband Inc.	Eliminations	Total	

#### **CURRENT ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents
Subscriber accounts receivable, net
Settlements and access accounts receivable, net
Materials and supplies
Prepaid expenses

Total current assets

### INVESTMENTS AND OTHER ASSETS

Accounts receivable, affiliated company Investment in affiliates Investment in nonaffiliates Deferred income taxes Other assets

Total other assets

### PROPERTY, PLANT, AND EQUIPMENT

Telecommunications plant in service
Telecommunications plant under construction
Nonregulated plant in service

Less accumulated depreciation

Total property, plant, and equipment

Total assets

### CLINTON COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY CONSOLIDATING BALANCE SHEET

	December 31, 2013					
	Westphalia			6		
<b>Clinton County</b>	Telephone	Westphalia				
Telephone	Company	Broadband Inc.	Eliminations	Total		

### **CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Accounts payable
Advance billings
Other accrued liabilities
Income taxes payable
Deferred revenues
Current maturies - long-term debt

Total current liabilities

### LONG-TERM DEBT

Long-term debt Affiliated company

Total long-term debt

DEFERRED INCOME TAXES

### STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY

Common stock

Additional paid-in capital

Retained earnings

Totl stockholder's equity

Total liabilities and equity

## CLINTON COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF INCOME

For the Year Ended December 31, 2013

Westphalia

Clinton County Telephone Westphalia

Telephone Company Broadband Inc. Eliminations Total

OPERATING REVENUE

Wireline

Video

Internet

Miscellaneous revenues

Total operating revenues

### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

Plant specific

Plant nonspecific

Depreciation and amortization

Customer operations

Corporate operations

Other operating taxes

Other operating expenses

Total operating expenses

Operating income

### NONOPERATING INCOME (EXPENSE)

Interest and dividend income

Interest expense

Income from affiliate

Total nonoperating income (expense)

Income before taxes

Income tax expense

Net income

### **Great Lakes Comnet**

2013 Audit Exit Memo

# MOSS-ADAMS LLP Certified Public Accountants | Business Consultants

# Communication with Those Charged with Corporate Governance Under US Auditing Standards (AU-C Sections 260 and 265)

### Our responsibility under US Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

Our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

### Sensitive accounting estimates

- Depreciation
- Allowance for disputed access

### Difficulties in performing the audit

None

#### Corrected and uncorrected misstatements

See attached lists.

### Disagreements with management

None

### **Management representations**

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated as of the report date.

### Management consultations with other independent accountants

None

#### Other findings or issues

No significant findings – see exit memo for suggestions